



THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF ECLAC

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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

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2010-29



UNITED NATIONS



I. ORGANIZATION OF THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION

The thirty-third session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) will be held in Brasilia, from 30 May to 1 June 2010. By a resolution adopted at the thirty-second session (Santo Domingo, 9-13 June 2008)¹ and subsequently approved by the Economic and Social Council by its resolution 2008/9, the member States accepted the offer extended by Brazil to host the session. The meeting will be held in accordance with the ECLAC calendar of conferences for the period 2008-2010.²

The session is the most important event of each biennium for ECLAC. It provides a forum for the consideration of issues of importance for the development of the countries of the region and an opportunity to review the progress of the Commission's activities. In consultation with the host country, the theme selected for this session is *Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails*.

The session also enables the Governments of member States to examine the secretariat's report on the Commission's activities and thus apprise themselves of the work accomplished by ECLAC during the two preceding years. Furthermore, based on the programme of work that the Governments adopt and the calendar of conferences they approve, it also provides them with the means to define the mandates that will guide the Commission's work in the future.

In the present note, the secretariat has put forward some suggestions which, should the Governments of the member States decide to accept them, may facilitate the consideration of the various items on the provisional agenda and ensure the efficient use of time. As is customary at meetings of the Commission, these suggestions concerning the organization of work could be considered, together with the provisional agenda and the election of officers, at the meeting of heads of delegation, scheduled to take place on 29 May at 6 p.m. in room 2 of the Hotel Royal Tulip Brasilia Alvorada. The secretariat will make working and reference documents on the various agenda items available to the attending delegations, as well as the draft resolutions, which are expected to be adopted at the session of 1 June.³

The work of the thirty-third session will be conducted from 30 May to 1 June 2010.

The official opening ceremony of the thirty-third session of the Commission will take place on Sunday, 30 May at 9 a.m. in room 1 of the Hotel Royal Tulip Brasilia Alvorada. Subsequently, the officers of the session will be elected and the agenda of the conference will be submitted for approval. The rest of the morning will be devoted to consideration of the report on the activities of the Commission during the period 2008-2009 and to the presentation of the draft programme of work for the ECLAC system for the 2012-2013 biennium (room 1).

The Committee on South-South Cooperation will meet on 30 May in the afternoon in room 1. This meeting will be opened with a statement by Celso Amorim, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brazil.

The Executive Secretary will present the document entitled *Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails* on 31 May at 9 a.m. in room 1. Leonel Fernández, President of the Dominican Republic, which hosted the thirty-second session of ECLAC, has been invited to take the floor after the

¹ ECLAC resolution 643(XXXII).

² ECLAC resolution 634(XXXII).

³ See Documents presented at the thirty-third session of the Commission (LC/G.2441(SES.33/12)).

presentation. The rest of the day and part of the morning of 1 June will be devoted to a high-level seminar, at which the document will be analysed in depth.

At the end of the morning of 1 June, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, President of Brazil, which will chair the thirty-third session, will address the meeting.

In the afternoon of 1 June, the delegations are expected to hold a general debate and adopt the relevant resolutions. The closing ceremony will be held that evening at 6 p.m. in room 1.

The following annotations to the provisional agenda provide background information on each of the proposed items and suggestions regarding their consideration at the session. In this respect, it may be useful to recall resolution 419(PLEN.14), which states that, in order for the session to be fully successful, Government delegations should include experts in the specific matters to be covered.

II. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the provisional agenda and organization of the work of the thirty-third session
3. Presentation and consideration of the document entitled *Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails*
4. Report on the activities carried out by the Commission since its thirty-second session
5. Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2012-2013
6. Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2010-2012
7. Committee on South-South Cooperation
8. Other matters
9. Consideration and adoption of the resolutions of the Commission at its thirty-third session

III. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

Pursuant to rule 16 of the rules of procedure of ECLAC, at the commencement of each session, the Commission shall elect a chairperson, two or more vice-chairpersons and a rapporteur. These officers shall then hold office until their successors are elected. It is customary for the Commission to be chaired by the head of the delegation of the host country. It should also be noted that rule 20 provides that the chairperson or vice-chairperson shall participate in the meetings of the Commission as such, rather than as the representative of the member country by whom she or he was accredited.

It is suggested that the Committee on South-South Cooperation should have its own presiding officers, consisting of a chairperson, two vice-chairpersons and a rapporteur.

It is proposed that the selection of the presiding officers for the session should be considered at the meeting of heads of delegation to be held on 29 May 2010.

2. Adoption of the provisional agenda and organization of the work of the thirty-third session

Delegations will have before them the provisional agenda (LC/G.2429(SES.33/1)/Rev.1)) for their consideration and adoption. This draft agenda has been prepared by the secretariat in accordance with chapter II of the rules of procedure of ECLAC, bearing in mind the various mandates of the Commission. The representatives of member States may formulate observations and suggest such modifications as they consider appropriate under the aforementioned rules of procedure.

It is suggested that the agenda should be considered at the meeting of heads of delegation to be held on 29 May.

3. Presentation and consideration of the document entitled *Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails*

Working documents:

- Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails (LC/G.2432(SES.33/3))
- Time for equality: closing gaps, opening trails. Summary (LC/G.2433(SES.33/4))

The document will be presented by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC on the morning of 31 May, after which it will be commented on by three panellists.

In order to permit an in-depth consideration of the central theme of the thirty-third session, the secretariat has invited ministers, representatives of member States, eminent scholars and distinguished experts to participate in a high-level seminar on this subject. This seminar, which will be held on 31 May (room 1), will be divided into four panels, which will discuss the main themes examined in the document.

Each panel's presentations will be followed by a general discussion. In accordance with the rules of procedure of ECLAC, the representatives of the member States will make their statements first, after which the floor will be opened to other participants.

4. Report on the activities carried out by the Commission since its thirty-second session

Working document:

- Report on the activities of the Commission from January 2008 to December 2009 (LC/G.2436(SES.33/7))

Reference documents:

- Report of the eighth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.2994)
- Draft report of the ninth meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Report of the fifth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3125)
- Report of the forty-second meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3027)
- Report of the forty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/L.3177)
- Report of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee of the Whole of ECLAC (LC/L.3014)
- Millennium Development Goals: progress in the environmental sustainability of development in Latin America and the Caribbean (LC/G.2428-P)
- Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2008 (LC/G.2401-P)
- Preliminary Overview of the Economies of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2009 (LC/G.2424-P)
- Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 2008-2009 (LC/G.2410-P)
- Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2008 (LC/G.2406-P)
- Social Panorama of Latin America, 2008 (LC/G.2402-P)
- Latin America and the Caribbean in the World Economy, 2008-2009 (LC/G.2413-P)
- The reactions of the Governments of the Americas to the international crisis: an overview of policy measures up to 31 December 2009 (LC/L.3025/Rev.6)
- Crisis internacional y oportunidades para la cooperación regional (LC/R.2150)
- Macroeconomic policies in times of crisis: options and perspectives (LC/W.275)
- Espacios iberoamericanos: la economía del conocimiento (LC/G.2392)
- Espacios iberoamericanos: Iberoamérica frente a la crisis (LC/L.3121)

- El comercio internacional en América Latina y el Caribe en 2009: crisis y recuperación (LC/L.3184)
- UNASUR: un espacio de cooperación por construir (LC/L.3109)
- El Arco del Pacífico Latinoamericano después de la crisis: desafíos y propuestas (LC/R.2156)
- Climate change and development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Overview 2009 (LC/L.3140)
- Economics of Climate Change in Latin America and the Caribbean. Summary 2009 (LC/G.2425)
- Climate change: a regional perspective (LC/L.3207)
- ¡Ni una más! Del dicho al hecho, ¿cuánto falta por recorrer?
- Innovar para crecer. Desafíos y oportunidades para el desarrollo sostenible e inclusivo en Iberoamérica (LC/G.2443)
- Opportunities for convergence and regional cooperation (LC/L.3201)
- Latin America through the lens of social cohesion: selected indicators (LC/L.3189)

The secretariat will submit a report to the delegations summarizing the activities carried out by the ECLAC system, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), under its programme of work for the biennium 2008-2009.

The chairpersons of the subsidiary bodies of ECLAC have been invited to present brief reports on the activities of those bodies in the period 2008-2009.

5. Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2012-2013

Working document:

- Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2012-2013 (LC/G.2434(SES.33/5))

Reference document:

- Draft programme of work of the ECLAC system, 2010-2011 (LC/G.2373(SES.32/9))

The secretariat will submit for consideration the draft programme of work of the ECLAC system for the 2012-2013 biennium, which includes the Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES). The frame of reference for this draft programme is the proposed strategic framework and substantive priorities for ECLAC for the 2012-2013 biennium, currently being considered by the relevant subsidiary organs of the General Assembly at United Nations Headquarters in New York; this framework is used to derive the essential elements that are reflected in the logical matrix incorporated into the structure of each subprogramme.

The draft programme of work begins by outlining the thematic priorities and lines of action that the Commission proposes to address during the 2012-2013 biennium, in light of the main challenges faced by the countries of the region and current global priorities. A key element of the draft programme of work is the inclusion of a new subprogramme relating to financing for development, in response to the principal needs of the countries of the region in this area in the post-crisis context and given their status as middle-income countries. The document is divided into 13 interdependent and complementary subprogrammes that reflect the multidimensional vision which the secretariat proposes to adopt for addressing development issues. The first four relate to the activities of ECLAC in the field of economic development, including financing for development (subprogrammes 1-4). These are followed by activities relating to social development (subprogrammes 5-7), sustainable development (subprogrammes 8 and 9), training and public administration (subprogramme 10) and statistics (subprogramme 11). The last two subprogrammes have a subregional focus and refer to Central America, Mexico and the French- and Spanish-speaking Caribbean, and to the Dutch- and English-speaking Caribbean, respectively (subprogrammes 12 and 13). For each subprogramme, the strategy envisaged for achieving the proposed objectives is indicated together with the thematic areas under which the relevant activities and outputs for the 2012-2013 biennium are grouped.

6. Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2010-2012

Pursuant to resolution 419(PLEN.14), adopted by the ECLAC Committee of the Whole at its fourteenth session, held in November 1980, the focal points around which meetings of the Commission are organized is the biennial sessions. It was decided, as set down in that resolution, that sessions should be held in even-numbered years so as to coincide with the two-year budget programming cycle established by the United Nations General Assembly. It was also agreed that at each session the complete calendar of conferences and meetings planned up to the following session should be considered and that, whenever possible, the date, duration and location of each meeting should be specified.

At its thirty-second session, the Commission considered the document entitled “Proposed calendar of conferences of ECLAC for the period 2008-2009. Note by the Secretariat”.⁴ Following consideration of that item, the Commission decided, by virtue of resolution 634(XXXII), to retain the existing intergovernmental structure and pattern of meetings and to approve the calendar of conferences for the aforementioned period.

In compliance with this resolution, the secretariat has prepared a table (contained in the appendix to document LC/G.2435(SES.33/6)), which lists the scheduled meetings for the period 2010-2012 in accordance with the mandates adopted by the Governments at meetings of ECLAC and its subsidiary bodies.

7. Committee on South-South Cooperation

Working documents:

- Provisional agenda (LC/G.2437(SES.33/8))
- Annotated provisional agenda (LC/G.2438(SES.33/9))

⁴ LC/G.2374(SES.32/10).

- Report of activities of the ECLAC system to promote and support South-South cooperation during the 2008-2009 biennium (LC/G.2439(SES.33/10))
- International cooperation in the new global context: reflections from Latin America and the Caribbean. Note by the secretariat (LC/G.2440(SES.33/11))

8. Other matters

This item provides for consideration of any other issues which delegations may wish to raise.

9. Consideration and adoption of the resolutions of the Commission at its thirty-third session